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FOREIGN NEWS

Congress Begins Short Session.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The opening of Congress today drew great crowds to the capitol. On June 7 last the first session of the Fifty-sixth Congress adjourned and the second session began today with many momentous questions awaiting the attention of the national law makers.

Bills And Resolutions.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The first bill of the session introduced in the House was by Representative Crumpacker, Republican, Indiana, 'Making an apportionment of Representatives in Congress under the eleventh census.'

It provides an increase of membership from 357 to 365. The following States in representation: Arkansas, 1; Colorado, 1; California, 1; Connecticut, 1; Florida, 1; Illinois, 2; Massachusetts, 1; Minnesota, 2; Missouri, 1; New Jersey, 2; New York, 3; North Dakota, 1; Pennsylvania, 2; Texas, 2; Washington, 1; West Virginia, 1. The following States lose: Kansas, 1; Louisiana, 2; Mississippi, 3; Nebraska, 1; North Carolina, 4; South Carolina, 3; Virginia, 1.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—A resolution in behalf of ex-President Krueger was introduced in the House today by Representative Fitzgerald of Massachusetts. It recites:

Whereas, the heroic struggle made by the Boer republics to maintain their existence has excited the sympathy of the whole world, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the efforts of Paul Krueger to obtain the assistance of the civilized nations of the world in securing peace and proper terms of settlement between Great Britain and the Boer republic is deserving of the praise and sympathy of the American people.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Secretary Root's bill for the reorganization of the army was introduced today by Chairman Hull, of the house military committee, and at once referred to that committee. Work on the bill has been in progress, and the measure now is practically completed and ready to be reported. The report probably will be made tomorrow, and Chairman Hull says he hoped to begin consideration of the measure within a day or two, certainly by Friday, with the expectation of passing it in the house before the close of the present week. Mr. Hull says the requirements of the military service make it essential to pass the measure without delay. One of the changes in the bill made by the committee today was to adopt an anti-canteen amendment, offered by Mr. Hay, of Virginia, prohibiting the sale of liquor on military property, transports, etc. Another change made creates an inspector of artillery, instead of a chief of artillery, who is to be on the staff of the general commanding the army.

Missionaries Slaughtered.
BERLIN, Dec. 3.—A special from China to the Volks Zeitung reports a fearful mission slaughter in the province of Shan-si. The first victims, the despatch says, were a Catholic bishop and his coadjutors and four European priests, Franciscans, Italian and French. The governor invited them to his house, pretending to give them better protection, but when they arrived their hands were tied. Then the governor himself poniarded them all. Next the governor, went to the bishop's residence with a number of soldiers and seized six Marseilles sisters.

He promised them money and distinguished husbands if they would renounce Christianity, which offer they unanimously rejected. Thereupon the governor poniarded them, and also a number of Chinese priests and thirty Chinese sisters, and 200 orphans from three to sixteen years of age; Mr. and Mrs. Atwater and their two little children; Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Price and their son, all of the American board; Mr. and Mrs. Lagren of the Swedish, and Miss Eldred an English woman, were butchered.

The Porto Ricans Who Are Coming To These Islands Soon.
NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 1.—The first lot of Porto Rican, 114 in number, bound for the Hawaiian sugar plantations, were admitted here today from the steamship Areadia, as United States citizens, thus settling the vexed question as to the national status of the Porto Ricans. They are a puny, squalid set. They filled two tourist cars on the Southern Pacific and left tonight for San Francisco.

Observatory Looted.
TIEN-TSIN, Dec. 2. (via Shanghai).—Protests and requests have been forwarded to Field Marshal Count von Waldersee by representatives of the powers urging the prevention of the removal of astronomical instruments from the observatory at Peking. Most of the principal instruments have been prepared for shipment and labeled for Berlin or Paris. The Chinese themselves, do not protest, because, as members of Li Hung Chang's staff put it, their objections would be useless, as whatever they say or do in the way of protests only elicits uncivil treatment.

TELEGRAPHIC ITEMS

Oscar Wilde died at Paris.
No more cigarettes can be sold in Iowa.

Germany opposes the partition of China.

The United States will adopt a new field gun.

Several Boer immigrants have settled in Montana.

Minister Conger may be recalled from Peking.

Frantic enthusiasm was shown for Kruger in France.

Pope Leo's strength is failing rapidly. He can retain no solid food.

Teachers generally throughout California deplore the Ross incident.

Conger says he has signed no formal compact with the other envoys.

Canadian politics now divide on a race line between English and French.

A stock speculating ring has been found in the Salvation Army at New York.

The government has contracted for another submarine boat of the Holland type.

Cuban medical officers declare that yellow fever is spread by the bites of the mosquito.

Bids have been invited for guns which will cost the Government more than \$7,000,000.

The Russian Government is planning shipyards for warships and merchantmen at Vladivostok.

The Kaiser now travels with a carved pulpit from which he delivers his speeches and sermons.

The Fasig-Lipton horse sale in New York brought high prices. Axell was sold for nearly \$15,000.

Asquith urges a reform in the British educational system, which he says is slovenly and unscientific.

The Republic of Acre, situated near the headwaters of the Amazon, has sent an envoy to the United States to secure recognition.

The Pan-German Association has taken up the cause of several hundred Germans expelled from the Transvaal by the British, and will demand redress.

The Gathman Gun Company, which claims that Gathman's invention is the most powerful piece of ordnance in the world, wishes to use the ram Katakhdin as a target.

A journal special from Washington dated November 22, says: The United States will probably take a slice of China, Amoy being the port suggested as the most advantageous to this country.

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